Allocate A Data Set

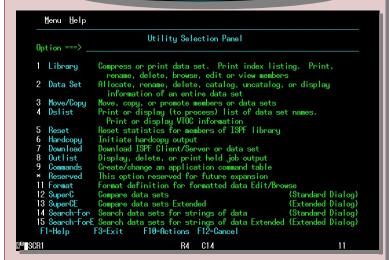## Data Set Naming Conventions

* Maximum 44 characters
* Maximum 8 characters per qualifier
* Each qualifier must begin with A-Z
* Qualifiers are separated with a period
* Avoid using special characters

Data Set

```
  Menu  RefList  Utilities  Help
                         Data Set Utility
Option ===> A

    A Allocate new data set          C Catalog data set
    R Rename entire data set         U Uncatalog data set
    D Delete entire data set         S Short data set information
blank Data set information           V VSAM Utilities

ISPF Library:
    Project . . _____
    Group . . . _____
    Type . . . . _____

Other Partitioned, Sequential or VSAM Data Set:
    Data Set Name . . . 'MEUPAAA.ALLOCATE.A.NEW.DATASET'
    Volume Serial . . . _____    (If not cataloged, required for option "C")

Data Set Password . .          (If password protected)


    F1=Help      F3=Exit      F10=Actions  F12=Cancel
SCR1                            AR17  C57                      CE
```

To copy a file to the mainframe, space must be allocated for the file to reside. To view an existing data set's characteristics, leave the Option line blank and place the data set's name on the Data Set Name line and press Enter. The following screen will appear. Once you've reviewed the characteristics, press F3 to return to the above screen. Place an A on the Option line and your new Data Set Name on its line (following the Data Set Naming Conventions and using a fully qualified data set name) and press Enter. Like magic, the appropriate settings are retained. Press Enter and look for the message 'Data Set Allocated' in the upper right-hand corner of the

Utilities

```
  Menu  Help
                    Utility Selection Panel
Option ===> _____

1  Library       Compress or print data set.  Print index listing.  Print,
                    rename, delete, browse, edit or view members
2  Data Set      Allocate, rename, delete, catalog, uncatalog, or display
                    information of an entire data set
3  Move/Copy     Move, copy, or promote members or data sets
4  Dslist        Print or display (to process) list of data set names.
                    Print or display VTOC information
5  Reset         Reset statistics for members of ISPF library
6  Hardcopy      Initiate hardcopy output
7  Download      Download ISPF Client/Server or data set
8  Outlist       Display, delete, or print held job output
9  Commands      Create/change an application command table
×  Reserved      This option reserved for future expansion
11 Format        Format definition for formatted data Edit/Browse
12 SuperC        Compare data sets                    (Standard Dialog)
13 SuperCE       Compare data sets Extended           (Extended Dialog)
14 Search-For    Search data sets for strings of data (Standard Dialog)
15 Search-ForE   Search data sets for strings of data Extended (Extended Dialog)
    F1=Help      F3=Exit      F10=Actions  F12=Cancel
SCR1                            R4   C14                      11
```

Option 2 allows the user to view characteristics of a data set. If an existing data set has the values you wish to use for your new data set (Ex. DTF Format), ISPF stores the values of the last data set viewed so that it can be reused for the newly allocated file. Note: You must have selected option 3 on the previous menu to get here.

Management and Storage Class along with Volume Serial, Device Type and Data Class can all be left blank for the default value.

Space Units define the overall size of your file (blocks, tracks, cylinders, kilobytes, megabytes, bytes, or records).
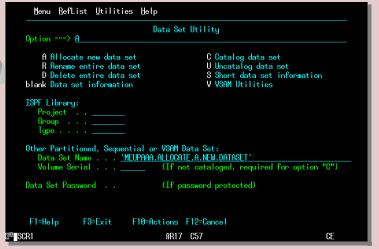
Average Record Unit can be left blank for the Record default.

Primary Quantity is the primary allocation quantity as indicated in the Space Units field (Ex., how many blocks, tracks, cylinders, etc. would you like allocated).

Secondary Quantity is the secondary allocation quantity as indicated in the Space Units field (Ex., how many times do you want to allocate blocks, tracks, cylinders, etc.)

Allocate

```
  Menu  RefList  Utilities  Help
                    Allocate New Data Set
Command ===> _____
                                                    More:        +
Data Set Name . . . : MEUPAAA.ALLOCATE.A.NEW.DATASET

Management class . . . MCSTD      (Blank for default management class)
Storage class . . . . SCSTD      (Blank for default storage class)
    Volume serial . . . . USS670     (Blank for system default volume) ××
    Device type . . . . . ▌         (Generic unit or device address) ××
Data class . . . . . .            (Blank for default data class)
    Space units . . . . . CYLINDER   (BLKS, TRKS, CYLS, KB, MB, BYTES
                                      or RECORDS)
    Average record unit              (M, K, or U)
    Primary quantity . . 1           (In above units)
    Secondary quantity   13          (In above units)
    Directory blocks . . 0           (Zero for sequential data set) ×
    Record format . . . . FB
    Record length . . . . 80
    Block size . . . . . 8000
    Data set name type :             (LIBRARY, HFS, PDS, or blank) ×
                                     (YY/MM/DD, YYYY/MM/DD
            F3=Exit     F10=Actions  F12=Cancel
```

Directory blocks are used for a partitioned data set. To allocate a sequential data set or a multiple volume data set, set this field to zero.

There are many valid combinations of Record Format codes but the most commonly used is F - Fixed length and B - Blocked records.

The logical Record Length, in bytes, of the records to be stored in the data set.

The block size (physical record length), in bytes, of the blocks to be stored in the data set. Must be divisible by the Record Length.